

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached replacement drawing sheets makes changes to Figs. 1A, 3A, 4A, 5-9, 14A, 14B and 15, and replace the original sheets with Figs. Figs. 1A, 3A, 4A, 5-9, 14A, 14B and 15.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 and 20 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 7-9, 11, 17 and 18 are amended and claim 19 is canceled, without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter found therein. No new matter is added.

Applicant appreciates the courtesies shown to Applicant's representative by Examiner Dinh in the March 23, 2006 personal interview. Applicant's separate record of the substance of the interview is incorporated into the following remarks.

The Office Action indicates that claims 2-6, 9, 11-15, 19 and 20 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the features of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 17 is amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 19. Claim 17 is also amended responsive to the objection and the 35 U.S.C. §112 rejection discussed below. Thus, claim 17 is allowable. With respect to claims 2-6, 9, 11-15, Applicants appreciate the indication of allowability, but submit that claim 1, the claim from which 2-6, 9, 11-15 depend, is allowable for the reasons discussed below.

The Office Action objects to Figs. 14A-14B and 15. Figs. 14A-14B and 15 are amended to include the legend, "Prior Art," responsive to the objection. Therefore, it is respectfully requested the objection be withdrawn. Further, Figs. 1A, 3A, 4A and 5-9 are amended to show proper cross-hatching and to show the first and second wiring layers are electrically non-conductive.

The Office Action objects to claims 1 and 17 because of informalities. Claims 1 and 17 are amended to recite "a conductive first interlayer" and "a conductive second interlayer" as specified in the Office Action. Thus, it is respectfully requested that the objection be withdrawn.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-20 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as indefinite. This rejection of claim 19 is rendered moot by the cancellation of claim 19. The rejection of claims 1-18 and 20 is respectfully traversed.

Claim 11 is amended to recite that the printed circuit board of claim 1 further comprises a pair of the first interlayer connecting members, responsive to the rejection.

Claim 18 is amended to clarify that the characteristic impedance recited therein is predetermined, responsive to the rejection.

Regarding claims 1 and 17, as shown in Figs. 1A and 1B, and as described in the second paragraph on page 13 of the specification, the first through hole 100 and the second through hole 106 have a coaxial structure such that the first through hole 100 is disposed inside the second through hole 106. As is also depicted in Figs. 1A and 1B, the first through hole 100 and the second through hole 106 are isolated from each other by the first signal wiring 102 and the second signal wiring 104. Thus, the second paragraph on page 13 is amended to correct a typographical error. Claims 1 and 17 are also amended to make the corresponding correction. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1 and 17 are definite, and satisfy the requirements of §112, second paragraph.

Thus, it is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 7, 8, 10 and 16-18 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over Schmidt et al. (Schmidt), U.S. Patent No. 5,442,143. The rejection of claims 17 and 18 is rendered moot by the amendment to claim 17. The rejection of claims 1, 7, 8, 10 and 16 is respectfully traversed.

As discussed above, claim 17 recites the allowable subject matter of canceled claim 19. Claim 18 depends from claim 17. Thus, because claims 17 and 18 include the allowable subject matter of claim 19, Schmidt fails to disclose or suggest the features of these claims.

Claim 1, in part, recites a printed circuit board comprising a first wiring layer on which a first conductive wiring is formed and a second wiring layer on which a second conductive wiring is formed, wherein the first and second wiring layers are electrically non-conductive, and a conductive first interlayer connecting member and a conductive second interlayer connecting member that is isolated from the first interlayer connecting member and surrounds the first interlayer connecting member. Schmidt fails to disclose the first and second wiring layers are electrically non-conductive. Schmidt discloses that metal layers 15, 15', which allegedly correspond to the first and second wiring layers of claim 1, are electrically conductive layers that electrically interconnected through the through-plate blind holes and the selected columns (Fig. 15; col. 4, lines 63-66). Thus, Schmidt fails to disclose the first and second wiring layers are electrically non-conductive, as recited in claim 1.

Further, Schmidt fails to suggest or disclose the second interlayer connecting member surrounds the first interlayer connecting member, as recited in claim 1. According to the Office Action, plated through holes 14, 14' in Fig. 15 of Schmidt correspond to the conductive first and second interlayer connecting members recited in claim 1. However, plated through hole 14 does not surround plated through hole 14', or vice versa. Similarly, none of the through holes disclosed, taught or suggested in Schmidt surround any other of the through holes disclosed, taught or suggested in Schmidt. Thus, Schmidt fails to disclose the second interlayer connecting member surrounds the first interlayer connecting member, as recited in claim 1.

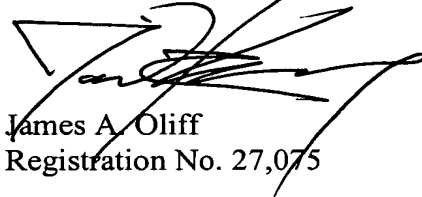
Further, because claims 7, 8, 10 and 16 incorporate the features of claim 1, Schmidt fails to disclose or suggest the features of any of these claims for the reasons discussed above and for the additional features recited therein.

Thus, it is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-18 and 20 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachment:
Replacement Sheets (10)

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